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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Idaho Department of Lands to hold public meetings on moth spraying

(COEUR D'ALENE) – The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Forest Health Program will hold two public meetings in Plummer to continue discussions about the current status of the Douglas-fir tussock moth (DFTM) outbreak, and to introduce the contractor that will assist landowners who want to spray their properties for DFTM control.

The Douglas-fir tussock moth is a native forest insect and needle feeding caterpillar. It is a major defoliator of grand fir and Douglas-fir trees. In 2011, the IDL, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Forest Service detected new areas with defoliation in Idaho and Washington. Kootenai, Benewah, and Latah counties in Idaho are affected.

The meetings will take place on **Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.** and **Saturday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m.** Both meetings will take place at the **Lakeside Elementary School Gymnasium**, located at 1345 E Street in Plummer.

The IDL held public meetings in Plummer in February 2012 to provide affected forest landowners information and management assistance options. Now that IDL has secured the contractor, Northwest Management Inc. (NMI), to coordinate a spray effort, forest landowners are encouraged to attend one of the public meetings or contact NMI to learn more about spraying options.

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